Claims

1.   Decoder for processing Pay-TV data, this decoder being associated to at least one removable security module by means of identification data contained in said decoder and in the security module, this decoder including a descrambling module, wherein the decoder furthermore includes means to deactivate the processing of Pay-TV data as well as a counter acting on said deactivation means according to its content.

2.   Decoder according to claim 1, wherein it furthermore includes at least one memory containing specific identification data of a security module different to that to which the decoder is associated, and means for comparing the specific identification data stored in the memory with the identification data of the security module contained in the decoder, and in that the counter is initialized by the means for comparing the identification data.

3.   Decoder according to claim 1, wherein it includes a deactivation value and means for comparing this deactivation value with the content of said counter.

4.   Decoder according to claim 3, wherein the deactivation value is a duration, a date or a numerical value.

5.   Decoder according to claim 1, wherein it includes means for receiving a command acting on the content of said counter.

6.   Decoder according to claim 5 locally connected to a security module, wherein said reception means receive a command from said security module, acting on the content of said counter.

7.   Pay-TV data management system including at least two decoders, each decoder being associated to at least one removable security module by means of identification data contained in said decoder and in said security module, these decoders including a descrambling module and means to deactivate the processing of the Pay-TV data, wherein the decoders furthermore includes a counter that acts on said deactivation means, and in that at least one of the security modules is declared as master and includes means for reinitializing said decoder counters.

8.   Data management system according to claim 7, **wherein** the decoders include a memory containing identification data relative to the master security module and means for comparing the identification data stored in said memory with the identification data of the security module contained in the decoder, and **wherein** the counter of each decoder is initialized by said means for comparing said identification data.

9.   Data management system according to claim 7, **wherein** only the module that has been declared as master includes the reinitialization means for said counters.

10.   Data management system according to claim 7, **wherein** it includes a supplementary security module as compared to the number of decoders, this supplementary security module being the module declared as master and comprising the means for reinitializing said decoder counters.

11.   Management process for at least two decoders for processing Pay-TV data, said decoders being associated to a subscriber and including means to deactivate the processing of Pay-TV data and a counter that acts on said deactivation means, each subscriber having at least two removable security modules that can be locally connected to at least one decoder, this process comprising the steps of:
-    determining of at least one master security module among the security modules belonging to a subscriber,
-    storing of the identification data of the master security module in each of the subscriber's decoders,
-    deactivating, by means of the counter, of the data processing decoder according to at least one predefined criterion,
-    reinitializing of the counter by introducing the master security module into the deactivated decoder.

12.   Process according to claim 11, **wherein** it includes a verification step of the conformity of the identification data of the master security module.

13.   Process according to claim 12, **wherein** the verification step of the conformity of the master security module includes an authentication step of a unique identification number of said security module by means of a pairing key between this master security module and the decoder to be reactivated.

14.   Process according to claim 11, **wherein** the deactivation of the data processing is carried out furthermore by sending a message to at least one of the subscriber's decoders, this message being sent by a management centre.

15.   Process according to claim 11, **wherein** the reinitialization of the counter is carried out on the basis of a deactivation value stored in each decoder.

16.   Process according to claim 15, **wherein** said deactivation value is transmitted to the decoders by means of an authorization command EMM.

17.   Process according to claim 11, the decoder being connected to a slave security module that is not authorized to reinitialize the counter of said decoder, **wherein** it includes the following steps:
-   storing of the Pay-TV data processing activity in the decoder,
-   detecting the insertion of the master security module,
-   transferring the data of the processing activity to this master security module.

18.   Process according to claim 11, **wherein** the processing data stored in the master security module are transmitted to a management centre.

19.   Process according to claim 17, **wherein** the processing data stored in the master security module are transmitted to a management centre.

20.   Process according to claim 18, **wherein** service data connected to the subscriber is transmitted to said management centre.

21.   Process according to claim 19, **wherein** service data connected to the subscriber is transmitted to said management centre.